REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated July 16, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims. The indications that claims 13, 15, 17 and 18 are allowed and that claims 2 and 6-8 contain allowable subject matter are noted with appreciation. In response thereto, the subject matter of claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 1, and claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: May 17, 2004

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